Reading is Fundamental – Joint Letter Request (\$28,000,000). I would ban earmarks as we know them, but as long as these earmarks are available, I'm going to apply for them in an effort to pursue federal funding opportunities for my district. For non-defense projects in the current earmarking system, I work closely with local governments, civic organizations, non-profits and business development authorities to identify and prioritize projects important to local communities in Georgia's Eighth Congressional District (and sometimes elsewhere). I only request funds for projects authorized by law for federal funding and do not do so for private parties or entities. This national project prepares and motivates children to read by delivering free books and literacy resources to those children and families who need them most. Funding will be used for purposes authorized in Section 5451 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. This program is a good use of taxpayer funds because it encourages early literacy skills so children enter school prepared for success in reading. Beneficiary: Reading is Fundamental, 1825 Connecticut Ave NW, Washington, DC 20009.